



Dice Popper

Written By: Gus Dassios



TOOLS:

- [Electric drill and drill bits \(1\)](#)
- [Hammer \(1\)](#)
- [Hole saw \(1\)](#)
- [Saw \(1\)](#)
- [Screwdriver \(1\)](#)



PARTS:

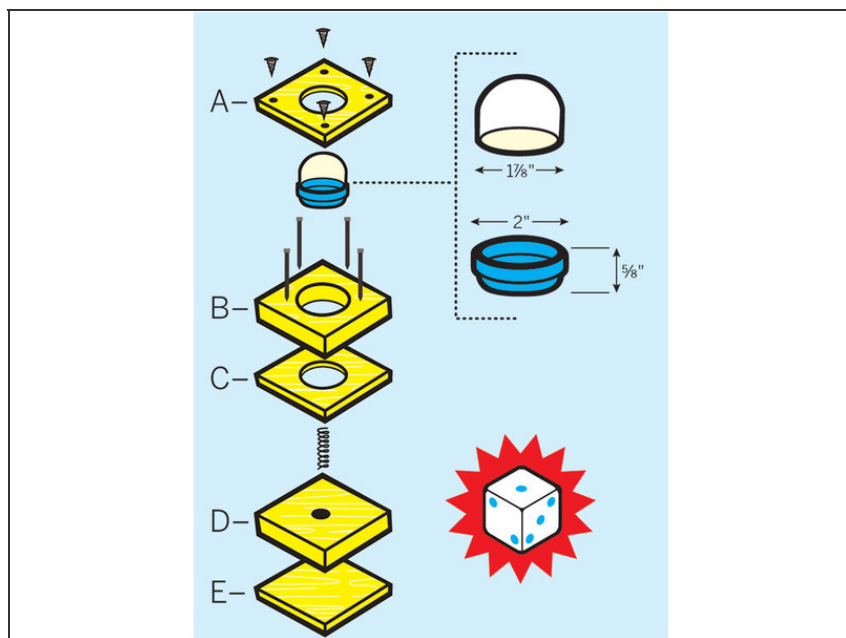
- [Plastic capsule \(1\)](#)
- [Compression spring \(1\)](#)
- [Wood \(1\)](#)
- [Flathead wood screws \(4\)](#)
- [Finishing nails \(4\)](#)

SUMMARY

This is my version of a classic way to “roll” the die for a board game. The key to making this special die agitator is the clear plastic capsule. I found the right size, 2" diameter and 1 " tall, in a vending machine — it's the kind that holds inexpensive toys or trinkets.

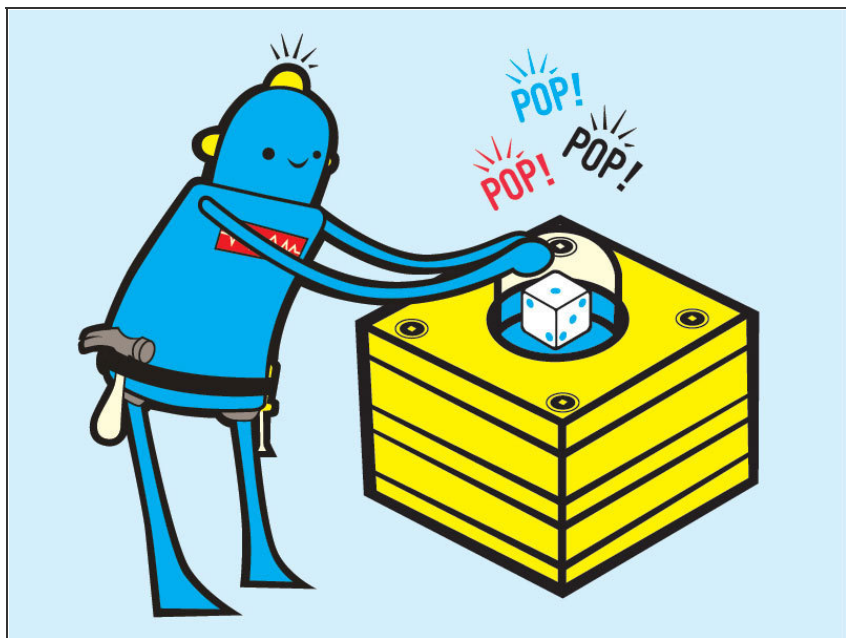
Illustrations by Julie West

Step 1 — Cut the wood and drill the holes.



- Parts A, C, and E are cut of 1/4"-thick wood, while parts B and D are 3/4" thick. Cut all 5 pieces to 3-1/2" x 3-1/2".
- Holes have to be drilled in all pieces except part E.
- For part A, cut a large hole in the center, anywhere from 1-7/8" to 2" in diameter, depending on the size of the domed half of your capsule. Then drill 4 countersink holes about 1/2" in from each corner, for the wood screws.
- For parts B and C, cut a 2-1/8"-diameter hole in each center. These holes will house the bottom part of the capsule. For part D, drill a 3/8"-diameter hole in the center, which provides a guide for the spring.

Step 2 — Assemble.



- Nail together parts B through E with the finishing nails, avoiding the corners where the screws will go. After this bottom block is assembled, insert the spring.
- Place a die into the capsule, snap it, and lower it into the wood block. Part A will cap everything. It requires a slight push to keep it in place as you screw in the wood screws.
- After that, you're ready to go. Good luck!

This project first appeared in [MAKE Volume 33](#), page 87.

This document was last generated on 2013-02-11 07:01:18 PM.